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SHALL I BE AN EVANGELISTIC MISSIONARY?

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What Do You Mean, "Evangelistic Missionary"?

One way to answer that is by process of elimination. An Evangelistic Missionary is not a Medical Missionary, nor an Educational Missionary, nor an Industrial Missionary, although he has been known to "doctor," to teach, and even to build! On the positive side, an Evangelistic Missionary is especially charged with telling the "Good News" by whatever means it can be told—preaching, teaching, visiting and just being friendly!

That Means That an Evangelistic Missionary Is a Preacher?

If he is a man, he usually is ordained, for he has the same responsibilities a minister in this country has. Along with national pastors, he may baptise, administer the Lord's Supper, perform marriages, and bury the dead, as well as direct the organization and growth of the church in the community. This is true in all our fields except Mexico where he can only preach.

Isn't That Just the Same as Being a Preacher in This Country?

The same—but different! For instance, look at this Evangelistic Missionary. He has his pick-up truck loaded for an itineration. In the truck is a bed, bedding, a stove, food for several weeks, books, a table, a lantern, and clothes in a metal trunk that becomes a bath-tub when empty. With him may ride an elder and a cook. One or two nights will be spent in each village on the itineration. At each place evening worship will be held, often-times around a bonfire. If a Christian teacher lives in the village, boys and girls, men and women will be examined for baptism and church membership. And a communion service will be held, with the rough folding camp table covered by a white cloth, bread and wine in tin cup and plate. But the Spirit of God is there as they "do this in remembrance of Me."

Then That Is a "For Men Only" Job, Isn't It?

No! There are evangelistic ladies who in our church are not ordained, but whose work is with women and girls. Their work is largely done through Bible classes and visiting in homes, in hospitals and in schools. Or the lady may be the wife of the man in the truck, in which case she would go along and visit with the women and teach them and tell stories to the boys and girls.

What about Preparation?

For men it usually means college and seminary. For women, college and Training School. For all, additional language study, since the tongue is one of the great tools of the evangelist. Make no mistake, this is a big job and requires the best—physically, mentally, and spiritually. If you are in school, make the most of your time. Poor grades have held more than one at home. Just in case, keep your record clean and strong.

If I Want to Know More?

Write the Candidate Department, Executive Committee of Foreign Missions, Box 330, Nashville 1, Tennessee. They will send you information about fields, about requirements and procedure.

Does This Commit Me?

No. But He has committed TO you a task. "Go ye into all the world and preach the Gospel to every creature."

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